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Contents for Week of October 16, 1939. Vol. XVIII. No. 15.

1. Soviet Union Appears in Political Patchwork of the Baltic
2. Warsaw: Capital Without a Country
3. Romania's Border Areas Coveted by Dissatisfied Neighbors
4. The Saar: A Battlefield Since Caesar's Time
5. The Umbrella Goes Up in Popular Esteem

Photograph by George Gr. Paskoff

THE DOBRUJAN BABY GOES TO WORK EARLY AND STILL SLEEPS LATE

The broad wheat lands of the Dobruja used to keep the Bulgarian city of Varna busy as a grain port, but prior to the World War Romania acquired the grain lands from Bulgaria to the south. Both Bulgarians and Romanians live among the Dobruja's grain fields and pastures. This Bulgarian mother, whose costume shows the Balkan taste for color, takes her baby to work with her, then makes him quite at home among the harvesters in an improvised hammock, shaded with a blanket (Bulletin No. 3).

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

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Soviet Union Appears in Political Patchwork of the Baltic

ESTONIA'S new pact with the Soviet Union, announced from Moscow September 29, grants the latter country a new lease on Baltic life, namely, naval bases and a port on Estonia's frontage on the Baltic Sea.

Hitherto the Soviet Union has been geographically on the back row as far as the Baltic was concerned; the country's Baltic port, Leningrad, lay in the pocket of the Gulf of Finland, 200 miles east of Estonia's port. For five months during the winter Leningrad's approaches are frozen over, and can be navigated only in the wake of icebreakers. At the mouth of the Gulf, ice hinders navigation only two or three months. It is in this region that the Soviet Union has leased from Estonia the port of Baltiski (Paldiski) on the mainland and the coastal islands of Saare (Oesel) and Hiiu (Dagoe).

Eight Nations Share Baltic Shores and Shipping

By this westward move the Soviet Union returns to the front row of the Baltic family circle, from which she was barred after the World War by the loss of her western coast to the newly formed nations of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. In addition to the latter three, the Baltic is bordered by Finland, Sweden, Denmark, and Germany, and was formerly the only outlet to the sea which Poland had. With its shore line divided eight ways, the Baltic is almost as much of a political patchwork as the Mediterranean.

In the days of the Viking fleets, the Baltic was a network of trading routes second only to the Mediterranean in commercial importance. Today, the Baltic transports the great trade of the marginal nations; most of it is among themselves.

The northern inland sea furnishes the only sea outlet for the three small neutral nations, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. While Russia has other sea outlets —on the Pacific and Arctic Oceans, the White Sea, and the Black Sea—its Baltic frontage is none the less important. Finland has a tiny strip of land reaching to the Arctic Ocean in the extreme north, but it is in effect dependent on the Baltic.

Sweden's Baltic sea coast extends for nearly a thousand miles, but it also has an extensive coast line on the waters of the Kattegat and Skagerrak, the channels which connect the Baltic with the North Sea. The other Baltic countries with double sea fronts are Denmark, which lies practically across the water door to the Baltic; and Germany, which now controls the entire southern shore of the Baltic.

Kiel Canal Gives Germany Safe Connection Between Two Seas

While all the other countries fronting on the Baltic must send their ships through the Kattegat and Skagerrak to reach the North Sea, Germany has the sixty-mile-long Kiel Canal connecting the two seas, through the Jutland Peninsula.

With an area of about 160,000 square miles, the Baltic Sea is more than half again as large as the five Great Lakes on the Canadian border. It extends north almost to the Arctic Circle where the sun never sets for a period of seven weeks each June and July. It is nearly 1,000 miles long, with a width varying from 50 to 400 miles.

So great is the flow of river water into the sea that it is increased in volume during the flood season. It drains an area about one-fifth that of the United States. The rivers are responsible also for lessening the percentage of salt in the water, which freezes in the northern portions. From the beginning of winter until May, drifting ice and frozen-over areas obstruct navigation in the northern Baltic

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Photograph by Maynard Owen Williams

KING AND CAPITAL-MAKER THREE CENTURIES AGO, SIGISMUND III STILL HOLDS HIS SWORD UNSHEATHED

Through nearly 300 years of changing regimes in Warsaw below, Sigismund has stood his ground against all comers. He promoted Warsaw to the rank of capital. Later, during periods of alien rule, the tradition developed that when the city's benefactor put away his sword, Poland's freedom would have no more enemies. His son erected the statue on its 66-foot monolith of marble; the Tritons at its base were an afterthought two centuries later. The spacious square faces the famous Royal Palace of Warsaw. The Gothic pinnacles rising above the narrow, crowded houses top the tower of the Cathedral of St. John. The lamppost (foreground) is typical of the ornate style of Warsaw's decoration (Bulletin No. 2).

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Warsaw: Capital Without a Country

MADRID was the first of Europe's capitals to undergo the crushing bombardment of modern warfare. Residents of other capitals tried uneasily to assure themselves that "it can't happen here."

Then Warsaw became the Madrid of eastern Europe. The nation vanished beneath military occupation by foreign powers; officials of the Polish government took refuge across foreign frontiers, but the capital continued to fight the country's battle single-handed. After three weeks of siege and bombardment, however, during the four weeks' war, Warsaw surrendered, and the shelling stopped. For the third time, Warsaw found that it had no Polish nation of which to be capital.

Old Center of Insurrections Seeking to Restore a Nation

The first time the city lost its country came when Poland was partitioned among Germany, Austria, and Russia at the end of the 18th century. Napoleon elevated Warsaw to capital status again for a brief period, but in 1813 Russian forces brought an end to that.

Warsaw, however, remained capital of the Polish national tradition, although confined in the strait jacket of foreign rule. After each attempt to escape by insurrection, citizens were punished by exile to Siberia, confiscation of estates, or a quiet hanging. Result: the governors grew rich, the populace grew poorer, and Warsaw grew gloomy. "It wears a melancholy appearance," a traveler reported during that period. "The palaces are numerous and splendid, but the great body of the houses are mean wooden hovels." After the 1863 insurrection, the name of Poland was banned from public buildings or records of the erstwhile capital. Following revival of the nation in 1918, however, Soviet Russia returned the works of art which Tsarist troops had removed from churches and palaces, and Warsaw came into its heritage from the past.

Approaching in size the American cities of Los Angeles and Detroit, the Polish capital made use of its strategic position on the Wisla (or Vistula) River to dominate the country's commerce. It became a center for trans-shipment and passenger travel, whether south to the Balkans, east to the Soviet Union, west into Germany, or northward into Baltic-borne sea trade.

Old Landmarks Contain Hearts of Dead Patriots

It became also a center of Polish culture. It found new significance in the old statue of King Sigismund III (illustration, inside cover) on top of a 66-foot column of Polish marble, in the Palace Square; it was he who moved Poland's seat of government northward from Krakow to Warsaw in the 16th century. In the two centuries of Polish independence that followed, palaces and churches multiplied, in step with the capital's growing pride and wealth. Its riches proved to be an irresistible lure to powerful Sweden to the north, and twice during this period Warsaw became a Swedish city, when besieging Swedish kings captured it.

Many of Warsaw's landmarks, substantial and ornate, date from the day of its early independence. They are alive with life-size statues, bulging with chubby balconies, weighted down with carved stone balustrades. The Royal Palace on the Palace Square was among the first of them, completed for Sigismund III himself. Later occupants renovated it to hide its Polish traditions, but the tradition of magnificence persists in the two-story ball room with lofty marble arches, the vast throne room, the marble doors and windows, the vaulted frescoed ceilings.

UMI

and its adjacent gulfs. Then ice breakers are called into service to keep commerce moving (illustration, below).

Note: Descriptions and photographs of the Baltic and its border countries can be found in "Life's Flavor on a Swedish Farm," in the *National Geographic Magazine*, September, 1939; "Looking Down on Europe Again," and "Pedaling Through Poland," June, 1939; "Farthest North Republic" (Finland), October, 1938; "Flying Around the Baltic," June, 1938; "Royal Copenhagen, Capital of a Farming Kingdom," February, 1932; "Sweden, Land of White Birch and White Coal," October, 1928; and "Latvia, Home of the Letts," October, 1924.

Bulletin No. 1, October 16, 1939.

© *Douglas Chandler*

ICE-FIGHTERS CONVOY THE BALTIC'S MERCHANT FLEET IN WINTER

In the northern waters of the Baltic, harbors freeze over at the beginning of winter, and ships cannot get from the open sea into port without the assistance of the ponderous, powerful icebreakers, the steel-plated St. Bernards of the Baltic. Sometimes the Gulf of Finland and the Gulf of Bothnia also are choked with drifting ice. The icebreakers have propellers fore and aft: the one aft for power, the forward one for suction, to suck the water from beneath the ice immediately in front of the boat. The high, overhanging prow then can break the ice. This 5,200-horsepower icebreaker, in drydock at Liepaja, is maintained by the Latvian government.

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Romania's Border Areas Coveted by Dissatisfied Neighbors

ROMANIA has four neighbors, now that the Soviet Union has filled in the space formerly occupied by Poland across Romania's northern frontier. Each of these four neighbors lost territory when Romania doubled her size with lands awarded to her by the victors after the World War. With the vital changes in post-war boundaries which wiped out Czecho-Slovakia and Poland, the neighbors have given indications that they hope for changes in Romanian boundaries.

The pictures of Romania before and after show a pre-war country of 50,720 square miles and 7,230,000 people, a post-war Greater Romania of 122,282 square miles and 17,393,000 people.

Five Distinct Regions Gathered into Romanian Embrace

The four neighbors who were left dissatisfied after contributions to the greatness of Greater Romania are, in clockwise order, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Hungary, and the Soviet Union. The border regions, which Romania collected and tucked under her belt like pillows for increased girth, are the Dobruja, the Banat, Transylvania, the Bucovina, and Bessarabia.

From Russia came the fertile 17,146 square miles of Bessarabia, the wedge of land between the Prut and Dnestr Rivers that extends to the Black Sea as a buffer between Romania and the Russian Ukraine. With an area about equal to that of Maryland and Connecticut combined, it has 2,344,800 inhabitants. After three centuries under Turkish rule, side by side with Romania, Bessarabia had passed to Russia. But peace settlements after the Crimean War, in 1856, transferred Bessarabia to Romania, thus pushing the Russian boundary farther away from Istanbul. By a treaty concluding the Russo-Turkish War in 1878, another reversal forced Romania to accept the Dobruja in exchange for Bessarabia, and the latter returned to Russia. In the turmoil of the Russian revolution of 1917, Bessarabia proclaimed itself an autonomous state, and later decided to join Romania.

The Dobruja, formerly called the cradle of the Bulgarian kingdom, is Bulgaria's unwilling contribution to Greater Romania (illustration, cover). Before Bulgaria was annexed by Turkey in the 14th century, the Dobruja had been in the ancient kingdom of Bulgaria. Romania acquired the territory in two parts, in 1878 and 1913. Assimilation of this region proceeded along with the development of the areas received a few years later at the end of the World War. With 8,979 square miles, the Dobruja is larger than Massachusetts. A coast region between the Danube River on the west and the Black Sea, it is used for pastureland and grain fields. Its chief value for Romania, however, lies in the seaport of Constanta, terminus of a pipe line which brings Romania's oil overland to the sea.

Hungary Was the Heaviest Loser

The former Austria-Hungary, contributing the most heavily to Greater Romania, lost the Bucovina, Transylvania, and the eastern part of the Banat. This was the result of the Treaty of the Trianon, 1920, which reduced Hungary's area and population to about one-third their pre-war size.

Transylvania is a mountain-bound plateau which had protruded into eastern Romanian territory like an elbow. Its area of 24,020 square miles is almost equal to that of West Virginia. It has rich gold fields and fertile valleys in which the warm summer weather ripens some of the finest of European fruits. More than half the people were Romanians. The fact that the Romanians of Transylvania lived in crude sod houses did not handicap the women in making their traditional handwoven fabrics of delicate texture and gorgeous coloring.

UMI

The Palace contains, among other treasures, the rather grim tribute of the patriot, Thaddeus Kosciuszko, who fought for freedom in the American Revolution before campaigning for the same cause in his native land; when he died, his heart was put in a casket and sent to Warsaw. The musician Chopin paid the same tribute to his country; his heart is in the old Church of the Holy Ghost.

The "Versailles" of Warsaw was the Lazienski Palace in the southern part of the city, set in a spacious park of terraces, lakes, shrubbery, and statues. It furnished 400 cases of art objects to the looters of the city in 1915. An outdoor theater in the park had its stage—an imitation Grecian ruin—on an island in the lake. In Lazienski Park and the more centrally located Saxon Gardens, the pleasure parks of former kings became the public parks of modern Warsaw. The spacious parklike boulevard of Ujazdowska Avenue, with its rows of lime trees and cafés, was as popular a promenade as the parks. The changing fashions of Warsaw life showed up in the contrast between modern spaciousness and the Market Square of the crowded old town—a cobbled square surrounded by the quaint, narrow houses, where nobles of Warsaw's pre-capital days built houses four windows wide to show their advantage over the two-window burghers.

An important factor in the appearance of modern Warsaw is an invisible one. During Russian occupation, the city was dominated by a spacious cathedral with a lofty separate bell-tower, almost Oriental in the Byzantine splendor of its gilt domes, double-deck arches, and mosaics. To the Poles it symbolized Russian domination of their capital. They tore it down.

Note: Additional photographs and descriptions of Warsaw—many of them now of historic value—will be found in "The Poland of the Present," *National Geographic Magazine*, March, 1933; "Struggling Poland," August, 1926; and "Partitioned Poland," January, 1915.

Bulletin No. 2, October 16, 1939.

Photograph by Maynard Owen Williams

THE POET IS PRESENT IN BRONZE ALTHOUGH HE WAS BANNED IN PERSON

As a student in the Lithuanian University more than a century ago, Adam Mickiewicz joined an "underground" movement to free Poland and Lithuania from the rule of the Russian Tsar, and was exiled to Russia. He wrote his patriotism into his poetry, however, describing the struggles of his people against earlier invaders, the sufferings of patriots in prison. Writing of the Polish and Lithuanian countryside, people, and superstitions, he became the representative Polish poet. His statue was placed at one of the busiest intersections of Warsaw. Beside it, street venders of fruits, refreshments, cigarettes, and newspapers station their movable kiosks.

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The Saar: A Battlefield Since Caesar's Time

SAARBRÜCKEN, Sarreguemines, Saar River, Saarlautern, Saarburg, and other names with the "saar" syllable, appearing in news of battles on the Western Front, are clues to the site of the struggle—the Saar Basin.

Only two-thirds as large as Rhode Island, the Saar River basin is a vital and strategic patch of Franco-German frontier that has retained its individuality since history began. Its rounded, wooded hills (not higher than 2,000 feet) offer an easy passageway through the highlands between Germany and France. Its reserves of coal offer a prize to modern states struggling to keep the home fires of heavy industry burning.

Julius Caesar and Charlemagne Defended It Against Germans

The Saar's 738-square-mile area is just the lid over tons of buried black treasure. The hills are veined with reserves of coal estimated at nine to twelve billion tons. The Saar is classed with Silesia and the Ruhr among Europe's most important sources of black energy for industrial development, and the Saar has the convenience of an iron-rich neighbor across the French border in Alsace-Lorraine. Saar coal mines and French iron have turned the region into one of the most highly industrialized centers of Europe, the streams dark with coal dust, the sky dark with smoke from steel mills.

Original settlers of the Saar basin were Celts, their tribes dominated by Druid leaders. Caesar helped fight back German invaders in the Saar, pushing the newcomers east of the Rhine again. Charlemagne drew French boundaries around the little border basin. As his empire crumbled away in the 9th century, the Saar became German territory, and has remained German ever since, except for rare intervals such as Napoleon's era of making over European maps.

The Romans before 200 A. D. had built a military road through the Saar to speed their legions to the empire's northeastern frontiers. Where their road crossed the Saar River, grew the present city of Saarbrücken (Saar's Bridge), the region's largest. Roman ruins in this neighborhood can still be had for the digging. French troops under Louis XIV and Napoleon marched through the same convenient passageway between Germany and France; so did German forces—in the opposite direction—in the Franco-Prussian War, when they advanced to the gates of Paris itself.

Germany Bought Saar's Mines from France

The Versailles Treaty, which split the Saar from Germany after the World War, placed it under a League of Nations Commission with provision for a plebiscite 15 years later. In 1935 the balloting took place on three alternatives—return to the Reich, union with France, or continuance of the League of Nations status. As a result, an overwhelming majority voted in favor of returning the region to German rule.

Politically under Germany, the Saar still had an economic tie to the apron strings of France. The Versailles Treaty had provided that ownership of its coal mines should be French regardless of the nationality of the territory. This arrangement was part of the reparation exacted from Germany in payment for French coal mines destroyed during the War. In 1934, however, Germany bought back the Saar mines for about $35,266,000.

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The Banat is a term for the Banat of Temesvar (pronounced Temeshvar); actually the word means simply "frontier province." It is mountainous in the east and southeast, but the plains are fertile though marshy in places, producing quantities of grain, hemp and tobacco. The mineral wealth of the mountains includes coal, iron, copper, tin, lead and zinc. Yugoslavia as well as Hungary feels the loss of the Banat. Serbian and Romanian settlements in the Banat made such a complicated mosaic that division of the region was difficult. When Romania received the eastern section, Serbs felt robbed of their compatriots across the new boundary line who could not become Yugoslavian with the western Serbs.

The Bucovina, or "beech forest"—part of the Austrian province of Galicia divided with Poland after the World War—slipped under Romania's northern boundary line and proclaimed its union with the larger country in November, 1918. This territory comprises 4,030 square miles, principally forest land, with a population of 911,000 (illustration, below).

The Bucovina brings the total of Austro-Hungarian contributions to Romania to the sum of 45,000 square miles. In all the war-bought territory, except in the Dobruja, Romanians predominated among the varied elements of the population.

Note: Romania's disputed border areas are described in the following: "American Girl Cycles Across Romania," *National Geographic Magazine*, November, 1938; "Spell of Romania," April, 1934; "Transylvania and Its Seven Castles," March, 1926; and "Roumania and Its Rubicon," September, 1916.

The Bucovina, the Banat, Transylvania, Bessarabia, and the Dobruja sections of Romania can be located on The Society's New Map of Central Europe and the Mediterranean, issued as a supplement to the *National Geographic Magazine* for October, 1939. Unfolded copies can be had at 50¢ (paper edition) and 75¢ (linen edition).

Bulletin No. 3, October 16, 1939.

Photograph by J. Berman

A ROMANIAN PASSES AN ANCIENT ROMAN IDEA ON TO THE MACHINE AGE

Romanians trace their name and ancestry back to ancient Romans who ventured into eastern outskirts of their empire. In the musical part of Romania's heritage is the primitive bagpipe which Roman legions carried with them into practically all of the countries they conquered. This large skin instrument is inflated by the breath, without the help of a bellows. The Romanian, reversing modern procedure elsewhere, plays man-made music for a mechanical audience; the outstretched ear of the recording machine picks up the strange folk melodies and saves them for future generations, who may have forgotten this ancient art. The Romanian musician lives in the Bucovina, the northern area added to Romania after the World War.

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The Umbrella Goes Up in Popular Esteem

PRIME MINISTER CHAMBERLAIN'S umbrella—a boon to the cartoonist—has come to symbolize "appeasement" as definitely as the dove symbolizes peace. British artists depict it being burned, broken, or forged into a sword.

But another British influence has helped hold the umbrella aloft, since Queen Elizabeth's American visit added a parasol to the fashionable feminine silhouette. To complete a picture of umbrella development, an umbrella museum has opened at Gignese, small town in northern Italy. Now comes a new streamlined chapter in that development, opening with news from the U. S. Patent Office of a ribless rubber umbrella inflated at need by a pump in the handle.

Time-Honored Insignia of Power and Rank

Although relatively new on the American scene, the umbrella has had a long and peculiarly distinguished career. In the ancient East, it served chiefly against the hot rays of the sun rather than rain—literally the portable "little shadow" which "umbrella" signifies. It became a token of rank and power, as it still is in various lands. At religious ceremonies in Siam, a red-clad page holds a scarlet umbrella over the King (illustration, next page).

Pictures taken during the reign of the erstwhile King of Kings, Emperor Haile Selassie of conquered Ethiopia, show the monarch in the protective shade of an umbrella held by a retainer.

Since time immemorial, the umbrella has been a favorite with the Japanese. The gay paper parasol was one of the most exotic touches which Westerners found in picturesque 19th-century Japan. Early Greek and Roman ladies of position carried it. High churchmen of the Middle Ages used it as a sign of prestige.

From India to U. S. East Coast Less Than 200 Years Ago

It was not until the 1700's, however, that the umbrella was introduced for popular use in England. At first men scorned it as effeminate; later they generally adopted it following the stubborn example of one Jonas Hanway, a world-traveler called London's first regular umbrella carrier. Mr. Hanway carried his umbrella regardless of hoots and jeers from hackney coachmen of the time, who feared that the shade might offer dangerous competition in their business.

America's first umbrella, according to some records, was an oiled linen model, on a framework of rattan. It was imported from India in 1772 to Baltimore, Maryland, where the earliest umbrella factory was thereafter established. Other authorities claim that the preceding year had already seen efforts in Philadelphia to introduce the umbrella as a summer sunshade.

Around that time, one of the leading Philadelphia newspapers declared the innovation to be "ridiculously" effeminate. Physicians took the other side of the argument, advocating the umbrella to prevent vertigo, epilepsy, and sore eyes.

Now, between 80 and 100 establishments in the United States produce more than ten million dollars' worth of umbrellas and parasols annually. More than 2,000 people earn their livelihood protecting America from a rainy day.

Note: Photographs of various types of umbrellas used in different parts of the world can be found in the following *National Geographic Magazines:* "I Kept House in a Jungle," January, 1939; "Where Bretons Wrest a Living from the Sea," June, 1937; "An Unbeliever Joins the Hadj," June, 1934; "Land of the Free in Asia," May, 1934; "Tokyo Today," February, 1932; "Modern Ethiopia," June, 1931; "The Warfare of the Jungle Folk," February, 1928; "The Geography of China," June, 1927; and "A Maryland Pilgrimage," February, 1927.

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Farms of 10 Per Cent Cannot Feed Industrial 90 Per Cent

About ninety per cent of the people of the Saar are engaged in industrial and trade occupations. From mine and factory pour constant streams of such varied products as coal, coke and steel, cement and soap, beer and perfume, tar, glass, shoes, matches, and machinery.

With less than ten per cent of the population making a living from the farm, the problem of feeding the Saarlanders, as in most industrialized regions, is acute. Much of their food supply is imported, though what cultivation there is, is intensive. Many of the miners' families live where they can raise garden produce, pigs, and chickens; and the miners travel by train to their work in the mines after a week-end at home.

But there are more than 825,000 mouths to feed in a small area of 738 square miles. Put another way, the Saar supports over one thousand persons to each square mile.

Note: See also "What Is the Saar?" and "Close-Ups of a People Without a Country" (duotone insert), *National Geographic Magazine*, February, 1935.

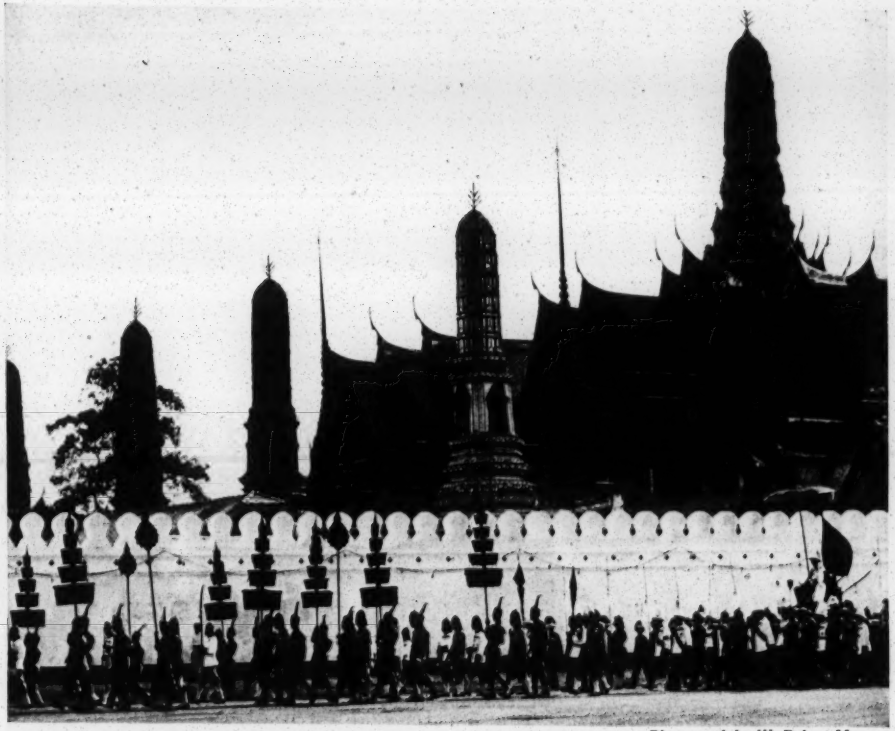
The Saar's doorsill position for passage between France and Germany appears on The Society's New Map of Central Europe and the Mediterranean, issued as supplement to the *National Geographic Magazine* for October, 1939. The map shows Saarbrücken, Saarlautern, Sarreguemines, and other towns on both sides of the border which have become the scenes of fighting on the Western Front. Unfolded copies of the map may be obtained from The Society's Washington, D. C., headquarters for 50c (paper; 75c, mounted on linen).

Bulletin No. 4, October 16, 1939.

Photograph by Burton Holmes from Galloway

THE SAAR, A LAND-LINK REGION BETWEEN FRANCE AND GERMANY, HAS WATER LINKS TOO

Busy railroads cross the frontier between Germany and France in the Saar Basin, for there is close interdependence between this small border region of Germany and the country of which it has been a part. From 1919 until 1934, although the Saar's rich coal mines were in Germany, they were owned by France. Rail transportation is supplemented by canals, one of which connects with the interlocking Marne-Rhine system of waterways. The slow progress of the barge in the canal (off picture to left) depends on the woman and boy on the towpath, pulling against their breastbands attached to the towrope. Away from the industrial areas, the Saar is still congested; numerous tiny cottages are hidden among the little groves and the grain fields on the hillside.



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

IT'S USUALLY FAIR WEATHER WHEN STATE UMBRELLAS GET TOGETHER

When the Siamese King's umbrella is raised in Bangkok, it is not a sign of rain but of an official function. The King's actual sunshade (right) is an elaborate fringed model that would cover a table top. The symbolic umbrellas, borne in advance, are five- and seven-tiered creations rising to a peak, in a style reflecting the spires of the Wat Phra Keo (background).

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